

WI-441  
John Boznango House  
Salisbury  
Private

c. 1850

Historically identified in the land records as the John Boznango property, this story-and-a-half frame house appears to date from the third quarter of the nineteenth century, perhaps as early as 1850. The story-and-a-half form coupled with the flush gable end finish of the roof, suggest the pre-Civil War construction date. The chain of title research indicates that this lot was part of a much larger parcel known as the "Spencer Todd farm," which was subdivided into building lots around 1874. It is highly likely that this story-and-a-half frame house was repositioned to face Second Street when the lots were created from the Todd farm.

During the late nineteenth century the house and lot were held by Henrietta Byrd, who acquired the property in the wake of a circuit court case issued in 1874. During the first half of the twentieth century, the house and lot were owned by the Parsons family.

## MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: John Boznango House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-441

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s):     Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation:       Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s):     Agricultural-Industrial Transition  
1815-1870
4. Resource Type(s):

Survey No. WI-441

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES~~Maryland~~ Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic John Boznango House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street &amp; number 105 Second Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Salisbury \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

**3. Classification**

| Category  | Ownership  | Status  | Present Use       |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
| ___ district                                    | ___ public   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied        | ___ agriculture   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private        | ___ unoccupied                                      | ___ commercial    |
| ___ structure                                   | ___ both   | ___ work in progress                                | ___ educational   |
| ___ site  | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                          | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | ___ entertainment |
| ___ object                                      | ___ in process                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | ___ government    |
|   | ___ being considered                               | ___ yes: unrestricted                               | ___ industrial    |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | ___ no  | ___ military      |
|   |  |   | ___ other:        |

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert P. and Hilda T. Cannon

street &amp; number P. O. Box 164 telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21803

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 739

street &amp; number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 485

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. WI-441

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Identified as the John Boznango house, the story-and-a-half, one-room plan frame dwelling stands at 105 Second Street in the west side neighborhood of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The house faces northwest with the gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis. The house is currently unoccupied, and the exterior openings are covered with plywood boards.

Estimated to date around 1850-60, the story-and-a-half frame dwelling is supported on a brick pier foundation covered with pressed metal sheeting. Uniformly sheathed with asbestos shingles, the house is covered by a medium pitched asphalt shingle roof. Evident under the asbestos shingles is a layer of plain weatherboards. Attached to the south gable end is a single story addition with a low pitched gable roof.

The northwest (main) facade is a two-bay elevation defined by a door and a window opening. The window opening is boarded over. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice.

The northeast gable end is defined by a single window opening on each floor, and the flush gable end is finished with a plain bargeboard.

The southwest gable end, on the other hand, is largely covered by the single-story, one-room plan wing. Above the roofline of the wing are small windows to either side of an interior end, stuccoed brick stove flue.

The interior was not seen.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-441

| Period  | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric          | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900–                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Historically identified in the land records as the John Boznango property, this story-and-a-half frame house appears to date from the third quarter of the nineteenth century, perhaps as early as 1850. The story-and-a-half form coupled with the flush gable end finish of the roof, suggest the pre-Civil War construction date. The chain of title research indicates that this lot was part of a much larger parcel known as the "Spencer Todd farm," which was subdivided into building lots around 1874.<sup>1</sup> It is highly likely that this story-and-a-half frame house was repositioned to face Second Street when the lots were created from the Todd farm.

During the late nineteenth century the house and lot were held by Henrietta Byrd, who acquired the property in the wake of a circuit court case issued in 1874. During the first half of the twentieth century, the house and lot were owned by the Parsons family.

<sup>1</sup> Wicomico County Chancery Record, SPT 2/424-452, plat folio 446 shows the general relationship of the farm complex with the new streets surveyed and labeled "California Building Lots, 1874."

Survey No. WI-441

**Quadrangle scale** \_\_\_\_\_

H | | | | | | | | | |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

|       |          |       |
|-------|----------|-------|
| state | Maryland | 21871 |
|-------|----------|-------|

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST.**  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

WI-441  
John Boznango House  
105 Second Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

739/485                                      Brittingham Construction Company

to

7/6/1971                                      Robert P. Cannon  
Hilda T. Cannon  
Lots 26 and 36 as shown on a plat made by P. F. Shockley  
and recorded in Chancery Case EAT 8/334

and being the same land conveyed to Shore Enterprises Inc.  
by Esther P. Hillman et vir., 9/29/1965, JWTS 618/510,  
the said Shore Enterprises, Inc. having merged with  
Brittingham Construction

JWTS 618/510                                      Esther P. Hillman  
Linwood A. Hillman

to

9/29/1965                                      Shore Enterprises, Inc.

277/29    Nora L. Parsons

to

8/31/1940                                      Esther P. Hillman

WI-441  
John Boznango House  
105 Second Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

58/209                      Jehu T. Parsons, trustee

to

6/23/1908                  Nora L. Parsons  
\$1300    Whereas by a Decree of Circuit Court, 11/9/1903,  
Theodore A. Veasey was complainant and Jehu T.  
Parsons administrator of Allison F. Parsons

Several lots-Item 2

Lot No. 36, being a part of the John Boznango  
property, advertisement of sale    No. 8 House and  
Lot

JTT 11/31                   Annie T. Morris, Jeremiah J. Morris, John Boznango

to

10/25/1892                A. F. Parsons

SPT 5/342                  Henrietta Byrd

to

3/1883                      Annie T. Morris



WI-441

Page 3

John Boznango House  
105 Second Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

SPT 5/341

Samuel A. Graham, trustee

to

1/31/1883

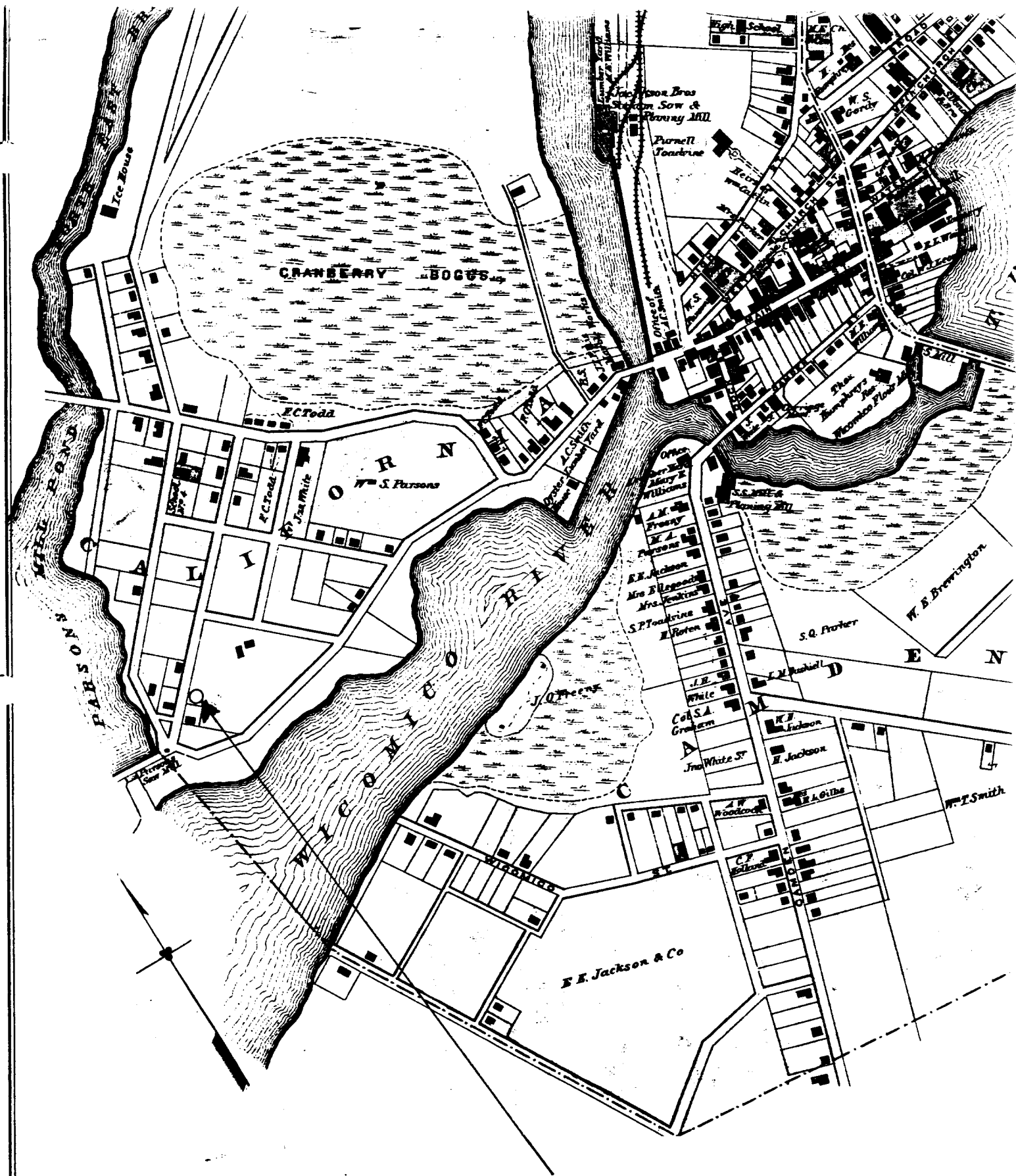
Henrietta Byrd  
Decree of Circuit Court, 1/19/1874, Annie T. Byrd vs.  
William S. Parsons, Milton A. Parsons, George W.  
Parsons, Alonza Parsons, Allison F. Parsons, Mary A.  
Hart, George Hart, Jehu T. Parsons, Esther Parsons, John  
T. Hammond, Esther Hammond, Chance Smith, Virginia  
Smith, James P. Toadvine, Josephine Toadvine and  
Edward Stanley Toadvine

No. 159, Chancery Record, SPT 2/424-452

...also all that part of the Spencer Todd farm lying in that  
part of the Town of Salisbury aforesaid called "California"  
and described in a plot of that part of the same devised by  
the said Jehu Parsons to said Annie T. Byrd as Lot C  
embracing the old dwelling house and outbuildings...

Plat on page 446 shows farmhouse, outbuildings, and  
graveyard for the Spencer Todd farm, plat entitled  
"California Building Lots" 1874





WI-441

John Boznango House

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas  
1877

5860 LNW  
(HEBRON)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

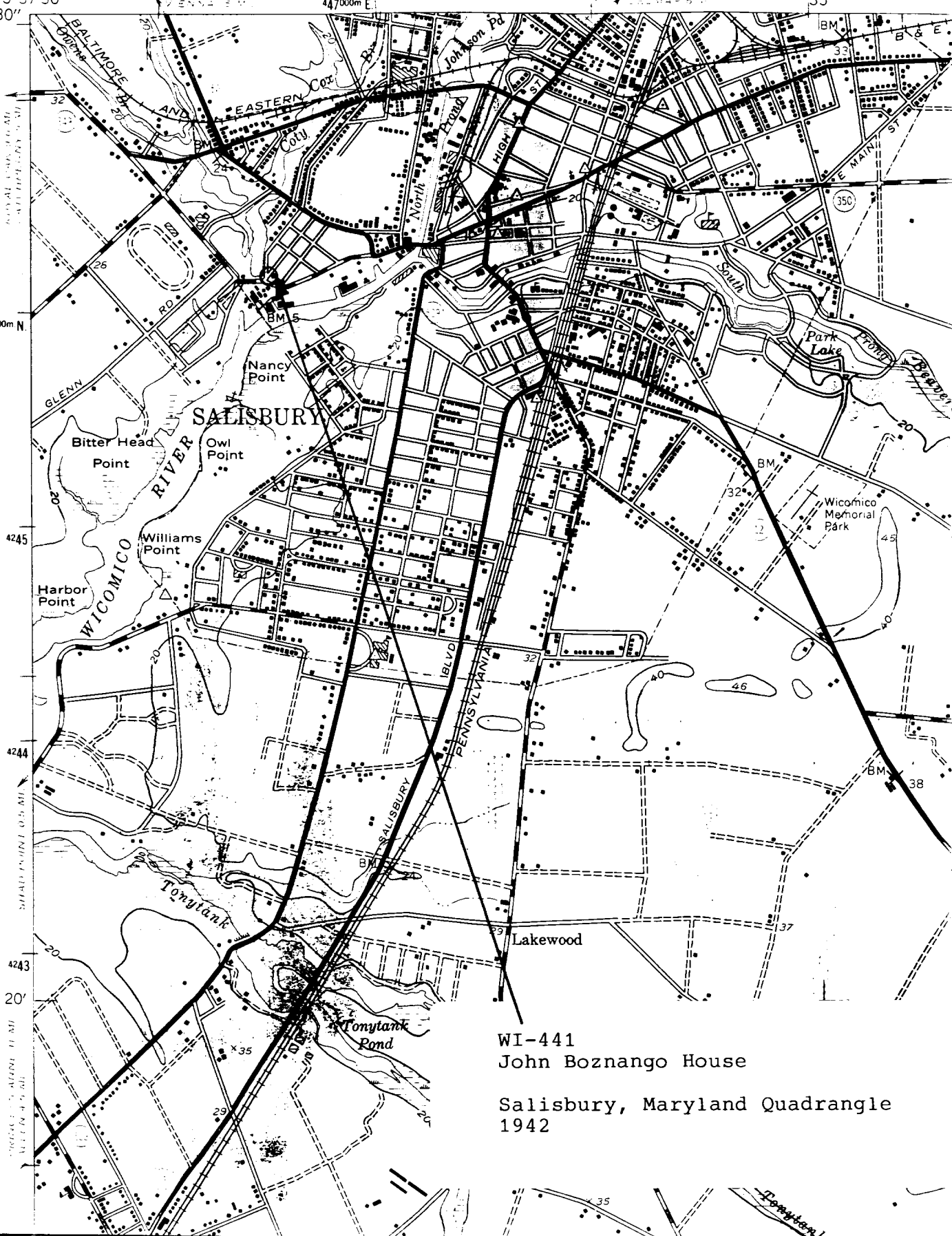
75°37'30"  
38°22'30"

CAMBRIDGE 3 M

447000m E

35'

4246000m N



WI-441

John Boznango House

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942







